



PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT • SOLID WASTE DIVISION
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Mountain View Businesses

April 13, 2012

Subject: **Single-Use Carryout Bag Ordinance**

This letter serves as notice that the City of Mountain View intends to prepare an ordinance regulating single-use carryout bags. The purpose of this notice is to provide affected and interested parties with information describing the proposal. You are receiving this letter because your business license information on file with the City indicates that you are, or may be, a retail establishment that provides single-use carryout bags to customers at the point of sale. If not, the ordinance will not apply to your business.

Project Description

The proposed Single-Use Carryout Bag Ordinance would regulate the use of paper and plastic single-use carryout bags within Mountain View. The proposed ordinance would apply to all retail establishments, including those selling clothing, food, and personal items directly to the customer. It would not apply to public eating establishments or nonprofit charitable reusers. The proposed ordinance would (1) prohibit the free distribution of single-use carryout paper and plastic bags and (2) require retail establishments to charge customers for recycled-content paper bags and reusable bags at the point of sale. The minimum charge would be ten cents (\$0.10) initially, increasing to twenty-five cents (\$0.25) on or after January 1, 2015.

Environmental Impact Report Preparation

There are two components to development of an ordinance. The first is an evaluation of the potential environmental effects. The City is partnering with the County of San Mateo (the Lead Agency) and 23 other jurisdictions to prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) evaluating the project as described above. The environmental factors the County has determined would potentially be affected by the project include:

- Air Quality
- Hydrology/Water Quality
- Biological Resources
- Utilities and Service Systems
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions

The complete Notice of Preparation, which includes a list of municipalities participating in the EIR and a more detailed description of the proposed ordinance provisions, is available on the City's website: www.mvrecycle.org.

Review Period: The Lead Agency welcomes agency and public input during this period regarding the scope and content of the environmental information that must be included in the Draft EIR. Input may be submitted, in writing, by 5:30 p.m. on May 6, 2012, to:

Camille M. Leung, Planner
Planning and Building Department
455 County Center, Second Floor
Redwood City, CA 94063
cleung@smcgov.org
(650) 363-1826

Public Scoping Meetings: Comments related to the scope of the environmental issues to be analyzed in the EIR may also be provided at the following scoping meetings:

Mountain View

Wednesday, April 25, 2012 at 6:00 p.m.
City Hall, Council Chambers, 2nd Floor
500 Castro Street, Mountain View, CA

Campbell

Wednesday, May 2, 2012 at 6:00 p.m.
Campbell Library
77 Harrison Avenue, Campbell, CA

Milpitas

Thursday, May 3, 2012, 2:00 p.m.
Barbara Lee Senior Center, Room 140
40 North Milpitas Blvd., Milpitas, CA

City of Mountain View Stakeholder and Public Input

Preparation of an EIR is the first step in the ordinance development process. In addition, the City of Mountain View will hold one or more public meetings to gather input from businesses and the community about the proposed ordinance. This public input opportunity is tentatively planned to occur in July 2012. A public hearing on the ordinance before the City Council is tentatively planned for October or November 2012. If the Council adopts the ordinance, it would likely take effect beginning July 1, 2013.

Businesses or persons receiving this letter will be notified of these input opportunities. If you would not like to receive further notices, please send an email to: recycle@mountainview.gov.